

REMARKS

Claims 2-14 and 16-19 are pending. Claims 16, 17, and 19 are being amended.

The applicants appreciate the indication that all of the pending claims are directed to allowable subject matter.

Claims 2-14 and 16-19 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, as containing subject matter that was not described in the specification in a way to enable one to make and use the invention. The drawings were objected to for similar reasons. In particular, the Examiner questions how Vref is generated and questions whether there should be a dot connection between Vref and the collector of transistor Q2.

Figures 1 and 5 are being amended to include a dot connection between Vref and the collector of transistor Q2, as suggested by the Examiner. Such a connection completes a well-known arrangement for a bandgap voltage reference circuit as discussed in detail in the Background of the Invention section of the present application. The amendments to Figures 1 and 5 merely corrects an error that would be obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art, and thus, is not new matter. Accordingly, the original specification and drawings would enable a person of ordinary skill in the art to make and use the invention.

Claims 8-14 and 16-19 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite.

With respect to claims 16-19, the Examiner indicated that there is no support in the specification for the second current mirror having first and second outputs or for the compensation circuit having first and second inputs. Claims 16, 17, and 19 are being amended to recite that the second current mirror and the compensation circuit each have an input and an output, as suggested by the Examiner. Accordingly, amended claims 16-19 particularly point out and distinctly claim the invention.

With respect to claim 8, the Examiner asserts that there is no function or purpose recited for the "compensation circuit." As mentioned in the previous amendment, the applicant respectively submits that neither the language of Section 112 nor the case law regarding Section 112 includes a requirement for a claim to recite a function or purpose for any element of the claim, regardless of the breadth of the claim element. Instead, as stated by the Court of Appeals

for the Federal Circuit, "Determining whether a claim is definite requires an analysis of whether one skilled in the art would understand the bounds of the claim when read in light of the specification. If the claims read in light of the specification reasonably apprise those skilled in the art of the scope of the invention, § 112 demands no more." *Personalized Media v. International Trade Commission*, 161 F.2d 696 (Fed. Cir. 1998).

The language of claim 8 does reasonably apprise those skilled in the art of the scope of the invention. Claim 8 recites a thermal sensor circuit that, among other elements, comprises:

a compensation circuit that includes:

an input that receives the input current;

a first transistor coupled between the input and a first supply voltage reference and having a control terminal;

a second transistor coupled between the second mirror leg and the first supply reference and having a control terminal coupled to the control terminal of the first transistor; and

a third transistor coupled between a second supply voltage reference and the first supply voltage reference and having a control terminal coupled to the control terminals of the first and second transistors.

A person of ordinary skill in the art would certainly be able to determine if a circuit in question is a compensation circuit because a compensation circuit is well known to refer to any circuit that performs a compensation function. Further, the person of ordinary skill in the art could also easily determine whether the circuit in question includes the input and transistors that are included in the compensation circuit recited in claim 8. Accordingly, claim 8 reasonably apprises those skilled in the art of the scope of the invention, and thus, claim 8 satisfies the second paragraph of Section 112.

Claims 9-10 depend on claim 8, and thus, satisfy Section 112, second paragraph, for the reasons expressed above. Although the language of claims 11-14 and 16-19 is not identical to that of claim 8, it will be apparent in view of the above discussion that claims 11-14 and 16-19 also satisfy Section 112, second paragraph.

The applicants believe that the present amendment places all claims in condition for allowance. If there are any remaining issues to be resolved, the applicants request that the Examiner contact the applicants representative, Mr. Iannucci, for a telephone interview.

Also enclosed is an ADS showing the correct inventorship. Currently the USPTO shows Robert Iannucci as an inventor, which is incorrect. Robert Iannucci is the attorney of record and KRISHNAMOORTHY RAVISHANKER is the sole inventor of this matter. Please find enclosed a copy of the signed Declaration and Election and Power of Attorney.


The Director is authorized to charge any additional fees due by way of this Amendment, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-1090.

All of the claims remaining in the application are now clearly allowable. Favorable consideration and a Notice of Allowance are earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

Krishnamoorthy Ravishanker

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Enclosure:

Postcard
Supplemental ADS
Copy of Declaration
Copy of Election and Power of Attorney

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